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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT



SPONSOR: Salazar DATE TYPED: 2-02-02 HB 99

SHORT TITLE: Northern NM Study & Educational Program SB _____

ANALYST: Baca

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring Or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03		
	\$35.0			Non-Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in The General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Commission on Higher Education (CHE)
State Department of Education (SDE)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 99 appropriates \$35.0 from the general fund for expenditure in FY2003 to Northern New Mexico Community College (NNMCC) to develop an educational program and to study the designation of a national heritage area that would include Taos, Rio Arriba and Santa Fe counties.

Significant Issues

The SDE reports that this Bill would provide seed money for a research group of New Mexico colleges, universities, communities and the National Park Service to study the feasibility of having the Rio Grande area of Northern New Mexico declared a National Historical Area. Three county commissions have expressed interest in and support for this venture: Rio Arriba, Santa Fe and Taos. According to the SDE a steering committee has been formed to begin work on this project.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$35.0 contained in this bill is a non-recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY2003 shall revert to the general fund.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The following is provided for information only. It is not intended as a commentary on the merits of the bill:

This program was not included in NNMCC's budget request and was not included in the list of priority projects submitted by NNMCC to the CHE. Consequently, it was not reviewed nor recommended by the CHE.

LB/njw